

Rod Collett Photo

There Is a Sun Beyond All the Fog

Up above all the muck, pollution and fog of Utah Valley, there is a bright sun to be found. At Sundance, the temperature was a "warm" 35 degrees Thursday with good snow conditions. And a bonus — there's hardly a wait in the lift lines.

SUNDANCE



SUMMER

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Pat Christian Photo
Massive destruction at Robert G. Allen's dream home that was caught in wake of powerful avalanche in Provo Canyon.

Canyon Avalanche Danger Mounts, Slide Crushes Millionaire Dream Cabin

PATRICK G. CHRISTIAN
and J.J. JACKSON
Herald Staff Writers

A monstrous storm off the coast of California has continued to feed tropical moisture into Utah Storm fronts, bringing avalanche danger to critical levels.

One avalanche tore through a million-dollar-plus house belonging to Provo millionaire Robert G. Allen. Bad road conditions kept Allen's wife away from the house when tons of heavy wet snow roared through the couple's new mountain home.

Utah Department of Transportation road crews Saturday fought snow and rock slides caused by the high volumes of moisture in Provo, American Fork and Spanish Fork Canyons.

Utah County Sheriff's Department continued stern warnings for recreationists to stay out of the backcountry today, and until the avalanche threat subsides.

Storm-driven winds Saturday gusted to 95 mph at Sundance Ski resort triggering a ski-lift-cable derailment warning that automatically shut down the

The Allen Family

Robert G. Allen came to Provo from Canada where he met his Californian wife Daryl at Brigham Young University. In the early 80's, Bob Allen's "Nothing Down" became a Best Seller as did a followup non-fiction hit "Creating Wealth." Subsequent seminars, lectures and newsletters based on his business philosophies made him a multi-millionaire, one of Utah Valley's richest residents.

Allen is now chairman of The Allen Group Inc., and principle developer of Academy Square in downtown Provo. "Nothing Down" sold about 1.5 million copies, and "Creating Wealth" has sold nearly half a million.

Allen has been featured in the Los Angeles Times and The Wall Street Journal. More than one-half million people have listened to his lectures.

He is on the board of directors of the Utah Symphony.

The Allens have three children.



A slide cut through the million-dollar-plus structure filling it with snow.

Navajo lift. The high winds led Sundance officials to close the resort Saturday afternoon.

A National Weather Service meteorologist in Salt Lake City blamed the harsh, winter conditions on two storm fronts.

A "monstrous storm" off the coast of California pushed a great deal of tropical moisture into the state ahead of the coinciding cold front said Bill Alder. He forecast that snow would continue today above 6,000 feet, but said it was expected to diminish and clear this

afternoon.

"The three (slides) that have given me fits were snow slides near Deer Creek on U.S. 189 and up the American Fork Canyon on S.R. 92 and a rockslide on U.S. 6 up the Spanish Fork Canyon," said Utah Department of Transportation district engineer Carl Craner.

The UDOT engineer said road crews managed to keep one lane at each location open. The Spanish Fork rockslide occurred about 10 a.m. Saturday and the two snows-

lides started Friday and were still sliding Saturday afternoon, and crews feared problems could continue through today.

"The ground is saturated and where there is snow, it is breaking off and falling. Where there is no snow, rocks and mud are flowing.

In addition, Craner spoke of slides occurring from the Lehi area through the southern parts of Utah County and elsewhere along the Wasatch Front.

Cut ditches next to the roads are

not handling some of the slides, he said.

With isolated snow and rain expected today, Craner's crews weren't expected to have it any easier. "U.S. 189 is going to be a continual problem," Craner said, warning motorists to drive with care.

"The biggest gust we recorded here at Sundance was 95 mph at the top of our new Arrowhead lift," said Sundance spokesman Peter Crowley.

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CABIN: Slide Wrecks Dream Home

(Continued from Page 1)

Sundance vice-president and general-manager Brent Beck said high winds may have lifted a cable on the empty-chair side of the Navajo Ski lift three-quarters up its route, triggering a derailment warning.

Beck said the lift went into an automatic shutdown phase, but said an inspection confirmed the cable was still on track, so the lift was restarted and operated at slow speed until all skiers were let off at the top of the ski run.

Because of the gale-force winds that occasionally gusted into the storm-and-hurricane-force levels of the International Beaufort wind scale, Sundance officials shut down their Provo Canyon resort after 12 p.m.

Crowley said Sundance was expected to open for skiing again today.

Other Sundance officials said 10-12 inches of new snow is expected to greet skiers today.

The Sundance area received an estimated 43 inches Thursday and Friday.

Beck said his Sundance crews have been busy since Thursday using avalanche explosives thrown from helicopters, thrown by ski patrolmen on skis and fired from the resort's Avalaunchers in order to control avalanches at the resort.

He said because of this avalanche control, the resort has been kept safe from the high threat of avalanche.

Beck said the avalanche that damaged two homes near Sundance Thursday afternoon started west of the resort and outside the resort boundaries in an uncontrolled area.

"They think it started around 4 p.m.," said Mrs. Daryl Allen, who said she was lucky she and a child were not in their new home when the avalanche shot down a gully and through the recently-completed house.

"I was on my way up there since 2 p.m. and got stuck," Mrs. Allen said. She and other neighbors were apparently delayed by deep snow on the road that leads from Sundance resort to nearby homes. When she arrived, she saw destruction. "It looks like it is completely destroyed."

Mrs. Allen's husband, Robert G. Allen, a real estate educator and author, also confirmed that other

people were to have been at the Allen home at the time the avalanche is believed to have occurred.

David McDougal, a business partner of Allen, said Jim Hacking, the contractor who built the home, had planned on being at the house to put on some finishing touches. But a bout with the flu disrupted his plans.

The avalanche is estimated to have started from slopes located less than a mile above the Allen home. The home is located above and out of the way of a known avalanche runout zone.

But Thursday, the wet-snow avalanche lapped over the known path and ripped through a glass wall at the back of the Allen house and crashed through the home.

It exited through a glass wall in front of the home. Furniture and personal belongings were carried away by the slide, and the force of the avalanche filled much of inside of the house with the heavy, wet snow.

Utah County's new chief building inspector, Frank L. Robinette, inspected the damaged Allen home Friday and posted the wrecked structure as a public hazard. But he said he was still surprised at how the house withstood even worse damage.

He placed off-limit signs at the building and said, "We will prosecute anyone who enters this home."

"If I would have been on board with the county I would have taken a serious look at locating that home here," he said while inspecting the destruction.

"But it is really hard to second-guess mother nature your know," Robinette added.

Beck who has worked in the Sundance area for many years, said "Nobody I have talked to has ever seen an avalanche hit that area (area of houses). It's really too bad. They had worked on it for 33 months and it had recently been completed. It's really sad."

Beck said that Paul Stewart, whose family formerly owned Sundance and also the property where the cabins are located told him he hadn't seen an avalanche there either. The Stewart family purchased the land around 1901.

Beck said that about one-third of the snow on the slopes that feed the avalanche chute broke loose.

He and others warned people from going into the area because there is still a threat of yet another avalanche in the area.

Another house located to the south of the Allen house seemed to narrowly escape serious structural damage because the avalanche appeared to have almost split and flowed around both sides of the house, snapping off some trees a half-a-foot thick on a steep slopes south the house and one thick aspen tree located near a porch. Beck said the home owned by Gordon Lund suffered a broken wall, but seemed to escape other damage.

The Allen's expensive cabin was said to be elaborately decorated with custom manufactured pattern rugs and custom ordered and designed bedspreads. There were imported Italian floor tiles and specially sculptured redwood throughout the house, heated driveway and elevator, according to close family friends.

Mrs. Allen, who arrived at the cabin fifteen minutes after the disaster, is a talented interior decorator.

The Allens said that within an hour after the disaster, several children were expected to attend a party at the house. They said they were fortunate not to have been in the house when the avalanche occurred.

The house, 2½ years in the building, was a dream-home with a spectacular view of Stewart Falls. Friends of the Allens said they were impressed with its quality which included a specially designed and coordinated interior decoration-- featuring a suspended spiral staircase. They said there was a \$25,000 baby grand piano somewhere in the rubble.

The cabin was designed by Provo architect Lance Turner. It was reported to be one of his finest designs as a professional.

New restaurant opens at Sundance

Branch Room helps mold image of being a year-round community resort

17 Mar 1986

PROVO CANYON — A new restaurant at Sundance will fit right in with the new image the community hopes to make for itself.

The newly remodeled Branch Room, located in the Sundance Lodge, offers a more informal, relaxed atmosphere for diners than the Tree Room restaurant, while maintaining the lodge's rough-hewn natural wood decor.

The Branch Room goes along with Sundance owner Robert Redford's effort to make Sundance a full-season, year-round arts community as well as a ski area.

"We don't call Sundance a ski resort any more," said Sundance assistant marketing director Karen Judkins.

The Branch Room, a remodeled banquet room, will offer another food service alternative to people who attend conferences or workshops at Sundance. It also gives another option to those who aren't looking for the more formal dining atmosphere of the Tree Room, but want to avoid the "skier's cafeteria" atmosphere in the Sundance's Rehearsal Pavilion snack bar.

The restaurant's decor includes a large fireplace and leather director's chairs. Photographs from Redford's Sundance Institute independent film development project hang on the walls. A bronze sculpture by Utah artist Grant Speed serves as the Branch Room's centerpiece. Native American pottery and rugs complete the room's atmosphere.

The Branch Room is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Lunch is served until 5 p.m. The lunch menu offers appetizers, homemade soups, salad, sandwiches, an omelet of the day, and a variety of desserts. Soup and omelet items change daily. Other menu items change weekly. Prices for lunch range from \$2.50 to about \$5.50.

For dinner, pasta, steaks, chicken and salmon are on the menu. Homemade pies and pastries are offered for dessert. Prices range from \$5.75 to \$9.50. The Branch Room does not require reservations for lunch but they are recommended for dinner.

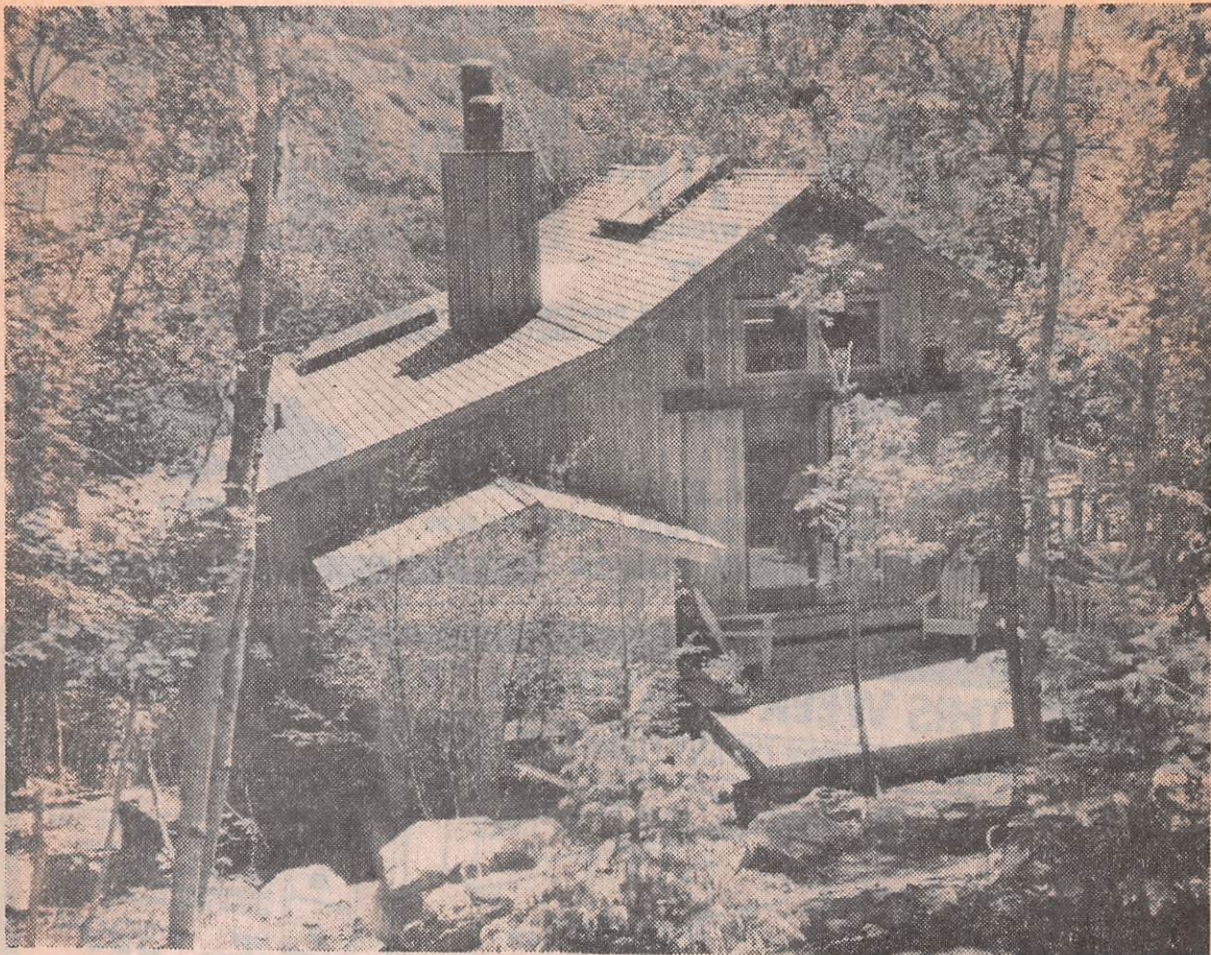
Beer is available at the Branch Room. Minibottles and wine splits are sold after 4 p.m. Setups are available.

over



PHOTOGRAPHY / GARY MCKELLAR

The western sculpture and wood decor in the Branch Room of the Sundance Lodge offer a more relaxed atmosphere for diners.



Mandan Cottages at Sundance are "rustic cabins" that capitalize on the area's natural beauty.

Developer begins construction of condominiums at Sundance

SUNDANCE — The first condominium development ever undertaken at Sundance, film star Robert Redford's ski resort and artists' retreat on the eastern slope of Mt. Timpanogos, has begun here with construction of a model and pre-sales of units.

Mandan Cottages, 50 units in 29 buildings to be built on a hillside site just to the west of the resort, is being developed by Crosby/Galvin/Morgan Investments. Jack Crosby is a friend of Redford's and sits on the Sundance Institute board of directors.

"These are condos by legal definition but they aren't condos as people know the word, these are cottages in the woods," said Peter Crawley, vice president of marketing for Sundance Enterprises.

"I think we're setting a new model for real estate development in price, size and approach."

The units will be available in four designs priced from \$136,000 to \$250,000. All are one-bedroom in either upper-and-lower, side-by-side or

stand-alone two-story configurations. Sizes range from 950 to 1,130 square feet.

The model, designed by San Francisco architect Howard Backen of



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Backen, Arrigoni & Ross is a stand-alone unit.

Crawley said most of the pre-sales are being bought as vacation homes. "People in the arts come to Sundance and fall in love with the place. For 17 years they've been coming here (Redford bought the property 17 years ago) and there's been nothing for sale. Now there will be."

The cottages were designed by Backen "as small, rustic cabins that

utilize light, space, natural colors and textures to optimize a warm human scale living space."

But Crawley emphasized that it's the area's natural beauty that is Mandan's greatest asset. Each cottage, he said, has been individually sited to minimize its impact on the trees and foliage while affording owners the best views possible.

Crawley said each buyer will own in common one fiftieth of the project. Under Utah's condominium law, all cottage buildings will be owned in common. Each owner owns the air space and the contents of his unit.

Common areas will be controlled by the Mandan Cottages Owners Association board of trustees.

Each cottage will be completely furnished, and buyers will be able to select from four decorator packages. Crawley said most furnishings will be constructed by local craftsmen.

Purchase of a unit requires \$10,000 down with the balance due upon completion of the cottage.

Redford's making his dreams at Sundance area come true

14 July 1986

SUNDANCE, Utah (AP) — Robert Redford, who moved to Utah 28 years ago to get away from the demands of his own success, is finding satisfaction in building his Sundance Institute into a haven for other, mostly unrecognized, performing artists.

Redford, in a wide-ranging interview published in the July issue of Utah Holiday magazine, also said his shyness and dislike for the glare of publicity are intertwined with his acting and his increasing desire to direct films.

His wish to maintain a low profile here, however, has come into conflict both with some of his environmental concerns and with the growth needs of the resort he has created in Provo Canyon about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City.

"My existence in the state is somewhat paradoxical, because on the one hand, I came here to be quiet and raise a family ..., " Redford said. "On the other hand is something you care deeply about; you speak for it, you try to do something."

"I have a true love of the state and my concerns around it led me sometimes to speak out against things that I felt were genuinely wrong. And that's where it gets screwy, because suddenly when you speak out, you're an outsider."

While Redford freely acknowledges that Sundance is a private development, he hastens to add that he did not build it in hope of financial gain.

"My business manager is not happy about this, because there's no profit in this. The fact is that Sundance is not a place of profit for me; there are other parts of my life for that," he said. "This is something entirely different. It's a lifelong project that's a bit of a dream; it's one I feel totally dedicated and committed to, and it makes me feel good to do it."

His plan is eventually to have arts activities going year-round at the resort, which already attracts winter crowds to its ski slopes. So far, Sundance hosts sessions for independent filmmaking, play writing, composing and dancing.

Other, more controversial plans include construction of 46 cottage units on seven acres.

"I'm real sensitive to this question," Redford admitted. "Up to now, people who build their own private homes up here have turned them over to Sundance on a rental-pool basis so that I wouldn't have to build a lodge. Finally, that has become unworkable."

Still, with 2,300 acres of developable land, Redford said he is building on no more than 50. Thirty acres are reserved for

workshops and dormitories for artists. "That's it; that's the end of the show as far as development at Sundance," he said.

His role as developer led to his becoming sewer commissioner for the canyon, an appointment he regarded as funny, but undertook in all seriousness.

Besides water conservation and planning, Redford has been involved in a long-running battle over the road through Provo Canyon and whether it should be open to interstate trucking.

He also has taken an active part in at least one local Democratic campaign, when former Salt Lake City mayor Ted Wilson ran for the U.S. Senate in 1982. However, "I'm not as political as people might think," he said. "I support people I really believe in, but I support the person, not the party."

And despite his support for Democrat Wayne Owens, who is running for Congress in Utah's 2nd District, Redford said he's "not in a political mode right now. I'm really concentrating on the arts, and my real role finally is not in politics; it's in the arts. That's where I think I can make the greatest contribution."

For example, he is proud of the success of Sterling Van Wagenen, former executive director of the Sundance Institute, whose first film, "A Trip to

Bountiful," won critical acclaim.

The purpose of Sundance is to provide opportunities for artists to hone their own skills and to interact with people involved in other art forms, he said.

"The core of what it's about is what can happen when people enter a development process here, and they find out where they can go with it," Redford said, recalling that some of his best years were those spent experimenting with and learning about his own abilities.

He took on his latest picture, the romantic comedy "Legal Eagles," because, after completing "Out of Africa," he wanted to do something fun.

However, he's following up that project by directing "The Milagro Beanfield War," a story about a poor farmer in Mexico battling a development. Shooting is scheduled to begin July 15 in New Mexico.

Redford acknowledged he wants to do more directing partly because "as I get older, I probably get less able to cope with the weight of being a public figure ..."

"Believe it or not, I'm basically a shy person than people realize, and that's probably why I chose acting as a profession — to get over my shyness. Or to keep out of jail, either one."